WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A graphical user interface for configuring a new service detection process, the graphical user interface comprising:

a first field that depicts choices for entities to track in the network;

a second field that allows a system to track if the selected entity is providing or consuming a service;

a third field that depicts a range over which to track an entity selected in the first field; and

an fourth field to specify a severity for an alert generated if a new service is detected.

2. The graphical user interface of claim 1 wherein the fields are linguistically tied together on the interface to form a sentence that corresponds to a rule.

3. The graphical user interface of claim 1 further comprising:

a list of new service detection rules stored in the detection system.

4. The graphical user interface of claim 1 wherein the first field allows a user to specify entity to track as "a specific host", "any host in a specific role", "any host in a specific segment" or "any host."

5. The graphical user interface of claim 1 wherein the third field specifies details for the extent of the comparison for the entity specified in the first field as "host", "in its role", "in its segment" or "anywhere" in the network.

6. The graphical user interface of claim 1 wherein event severity is a numerical value entered by the user.

7. The graphical user interface of claim 1 wherein the fields are implemented a pull-down fields.

8. A method for detection of a new service involving an entity, the method comprises:

retrieving a baseline list of port protocols used by a entity being tracked, the baseline value determined over a baseline period;

retrieving a current list of port protocols for the entity being tracked; and

determining whether there is a difference in the port protocols, by having a protocol that was in a current list but was not in the baseline list; and if there is a difference;

indicating a new service involving the tracked entity.

9. The method of claim 8 further comprising:

determining if the entity is providing or using the new service.

10. The method of claim 9 further comprising:

determining whether a rule specified to issue an alert if the entity is providing or using the new service; and

determining if the entity is providing or using the new service; and both determining actions match

issuing the alert.

11. The method of claim 9 further comprising:

retrieving a value corresponding to the alert severity level set for violation of the rule.

12. The method of claim 8 wherein the entity is at least one of a specific host, any host in a specific role, any host in a specific segment, or any host.

13. The method of claim 8 wherein the extent of the comparison is configured to for that host, in its role, in its segment or anywhere in the network.

14. The method of claim 8 wherein the baseline and current lists of protocols are provided from data in a connection table.

15. A computer program product residing on a computer readable medium for detection of new services in a network, the computer program product comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

retrieve a baseline list of port protocols used by a entity being tracked, the baseline value determined over a baseline period;

retrieve a current list of port protocols for the entity being tracked; and

determine whether there is a difference in the port protocols, by having a protocol that was in a current list but was not in the baseline list; and if there is a difference;

indicate a new service involving the tracked entity.

16. The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising instructions to:

determine if the entity is providing or using the new service.

17. The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising instructions to:

determine whether a rule specifies to issue an alert if the entity is providing or using the new service; and

issue the alert if the rule is violated.

18. The computer program product of claim 15 wherein instructions to indicate further comprise instructions to:

issue an alert if the new service is detected.

19. The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising instructions to:

retrieve a value corresponding to the alert severity level set for violation of the rule.

20. The computer program product of claim 15 wherein the entity is at least one of a specific host, any host in a specific role, any host in a specific segment, or any host.

21. The computer program product of claim 15 wherein the extent of the comparison is configured to for that host, in its role, in its segment or anywhere in the network.

22. The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising instructions to:

access a connection table to provide data for the baseline and current lists of protocols.